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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/739,357	12/19/2000	Craig S. Aman	10003506	3380

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

STOICA, MARIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3715

DATE MAILED: 06/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SP

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/739,357	AMAN, CRAIG S.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Maria Stoica	3715	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 and 38-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 and 38-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. In response to the appeal brief filed on 2 December 2005, claims 1-25 and 38-47 have been reconsidered and prosecution in the case has been reopened.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 4-5, 7-9, 12, 18-19, 21-23, and 41-42 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 5, line 4, there is an extraneous "s" that should be deleted. In claims 4-5, 7-9, 12, 18-19, 21-23, and 41-42, the lettering of items or steps is inconsistent. For example, claim 4, dependent on claim 1, contains two steps labeled (a), namely, the steps of receiving a request for instruction and the step of providing an audio. The steps in these dependent claims should be relabeled according to the independent claim from which they depend. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-5, 14-16, 18-19, 38-40 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Melker et al. (US Patent No. 6,535,714).

Regarding claims 1, 14, and 38 Melker discloses a method for providing instruction on the use of medical device to a user computer, the method comprising: receiving a request for instruction on the use of a medical device over a network, the request originating from the user computer (col. 2, lines 62-63; col. 4, lines 14-20); providing a first graphical user interface having a list of instructional topics associated with the medical device to the user computer in response to the request (Figure 3, col. 3, lines 12-20); providing a second graphical user interface with a list of instructional sub-topics associated with an item on the list of instructional topics to the user computer (col. 6, lines 48-51) in response to receiving a request for the item on the list of instructional topics from the user computer (Figure 3); providing a plurality of instructional graphical user interfaces having instructions pertaining to an item on the list of instructional sub-topics to the user computer in response to receiving a request for the item on the list of the instructional sub-topics from the user computer (col. 6, lines 56-65), at least one of the first, second and plurality of instructional graphical user interfaces including at least one interactive simulation object with which interaction simulates operating controls or device instruments of the medical device (col. 6, lines 5-19); and generating a feedback in response to interacting with the interactive simulation object indicating (i) whether a particular interaction is appropriate under given conditions (col. 6, line 56-61); and (ii) the correctness on the use of the medical device (col. 6, lines

61-63). Also, as in claim 14, Melker discloses that the system further comprises a server and communications network (col. 5, lines 50-54).

Regarding claims 2, 15, and 39, Melker discloses that the medical device could be an automatic external defibrillator (col. 8, lines 47-52).

Regarding claims 4, 18, and 40, Melker discloses providing audio output in the interactive training (col. 5, lines 25-27).

Regarding claims 5 and 19, Melker discloses providing linear (i.e., through any chosen presentation) and non-linear (i.e., through the menus and for additional remediation as necessary) navigation from at least one of the graphical user interfaces to another of the graphical user interfaces (col. 6, lines 56-57; col. 7, lines 18-23; col. 7, line 64 – col. 8, line 4).

Regarding claim 16, Melker discloses that the network is an Internet or Intranet (Figure 1).

Regarding claims 44-47, Melker discloses that the interactive simulation object comprises a medical device control object (col. 5, lines 15-22) that can be a medical device first aid instrument object (see col. 8, examples).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6-7, 8-13, 20-22, 23-25, and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Melker in view of Ramshaw et al. (US Patent No. 5,791,907).

Regarding claims 6, 20, and 41, Melker does not expressly disclose that the instructional information in each of the plurality of instructional graphical user interfaces includes a text description of the one or more operational steps pertaining to the selected item on the list of instructional sub-topics. However, Ramshaw teaches a medical device instruction system that provides a description for each device in a set of devices available, as well as providing text descriptions of step-by-step procedures in using the devices (Figures 5 and 8; col. 10, lines 43-49; col. 11, lines 61-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the text feature into the system of Melker in order to add clarity to the procedure steps, since a video clip or image alone may not place enough emphasis on essential aspects of the procedure steps. Furthermore, regarding claims 7, 21, and 42, Ramshaw teaches providing still images illustrating the text description of the operational step (col. 11, lines 54-59) and regarding claims 9, 23, and 43, Ramshaw teaches that along with the text describing the procedural step, a video of the step may also be presented (col. 11, lines 60-61).

Regarding claims 10 and 24, Melker teaches that instructions are provided based on the order in which the one or more procedural steps should be performed (col. 7, lines 54-59; lines 64-67).

Regarding claims 11 and 25, Melker discloses that the medical device could be an automatic external defibrillator (col. 8, lines 47-52).

Regarding claims 8, 12-13, and 22, Melker discloses providing an interactive animation illustrating the text description of the operational steps, wherein user interaction is required for the animation (col. 6, lines 3-19).

5. Claims 3 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Melker. Melker discloses that the instructional topics include a utility of the medical device item (col. 7, lines 1-5), an operation of the medical device item (col. 7, lines 5-7), and troubleshooting of the medical device item (col. 7, lines 14-15). Melker does not expressly disclose a section covering device maintenance. However, the examiner takes Official Notice that it is common and well-known in the art of teaching the use of medical devices to teach device maintenance as well as device use. As a simple example, when one is taught how to use a pipet, they are notified that they should never hold the pipet upside down while there is liquid in the plastic tip, and that they should always store the pipet with the tip downwards to prevent damage to the device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate a section for device maintenance (especially as a sub-topic in device operation) in order to prevent misuse and shortening of device lifetime through incorrect storage.


Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maria Stoica whose telephone number is (571) 272-5564. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on (571) 272-6788. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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